



Sean Rogan
Executive Director

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
of the County of Los Angeles**

700 W. Main Street • Alhambra, CA 91801

Tel: 626.262.4511 • TDD: 626.943.3898 • www.lacdc.org

**Gloria Molina
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Zev Yaroslavsky
Don Knabe
Michael D. Antonovich**
Commissioners

April 15, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

22 April 15, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**APPROVE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH 49 PARTICIPATING CITIES FOR THE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS
PROGRAMS
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTE)**

SUBJECT

This letter recommends approval of Cooperation Agreements between the County of Los Angeles and 49 participating cities to implement the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships programs within the County.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that approval of the Cooperation Agreements is not subject to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as described herein, because the action is not defined as a project under CEQA.
2. Approve Cooperation Agreements between the County of Los Angeles and 49 participating cities, using the form of the attached agreements, to enable the County of Los Angeles to administer the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Programs within these jurisdictions.
3. Authorize the Executive Director, or his designee, to execute the Cooperation Agreements, for the purpose described above, following approval as to form by County Counsel.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Cooperation Agreements outline legal provisions and requirements for a city to participate in the Los Angeles Urban County CDBG program. The Agreements also provide for automatic renewal of

participation for successive three-year periods, unless the County or the city provides written notice that it elects not to participate in a new qualification period.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has added several new requirements to be included in the Cooperation Agreement. These new requirements more clearly delineate the fair housing and civil rights obligations to which Urban Counties and participating jurisdictions are subject, and include new legal and regulatory citations. In addition, obsolete provisions have been deleted or modified. HUD requires that the new provisions be included in Agreements effective July 1, 2015. A list of participating cities is provided as Attachment A.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no impact on the County general fund.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The revised CDBG Cooperation Agreement is being presented in substantially final form, and will be effective following approval as to form by County Counsel and execution by all parties.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Approval of revised Cooperation Agreement is exempt from the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act pursuant to 24 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 58, Section 58.34 (a)(3), because it is an administrative action and does not involve activities that will alter existing environmental conditions. This action is not a project pursuant to CEQA because it is an activity that is excluded from the definition of a project by Section 15378 (b) of the State CEQA guidelines. The proposed action is an administrative activity of government which will not result in direct or indirect physical change to the environment.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the Cooperation Agreement will enable the 49 participating cities to implement their CDBG and HOME programs.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

4/15/2014

Page 3

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Rogan", followed by a horizontal line.

SEAN ROGAN

Executive Director

SR:rw

Enclosures

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAMS**

**PARTICIPATING CITY
COOPERATION AGREEMENT**

This Agreement is being entered into on this «Date» day of, «Month», «Year», to be effective on the 1st day of July 2015, by and between the City of «City Name», hereinafter referred to as "City," and the County of Los Angeles, by and through the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission of the County, hereinafter referred to as "County" and shall remain in effect for the three-year qualification period through the 30th day of June 2018. After this date, this Agreement provides for automatic renewal of participation in successive three-year qualification periods, unless the County or the City provides written notice it elects not to participate in a new qualification period.

WITNESSETH THAT:

WHEREAS, in 1974, the U.S. Congress enacted and the President signed a law entitled, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, herein called the "Act;" and

WHEREAS, County and City desire to cooperate to undertake, or assist in undertaking, community development, community renewal of lower income housing assistance activities, specifically urban renewal and publicly assisted housing, including, but not limited to, the improvement or development of housing for persons of low- to moderate-incomes, and other community or urban renewal activities authorized by the Act, the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (NAHA), and the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended;

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program are required to have an approved comprehensive housing strategy as authorized under NAHA;

WHEREAS, the County has requested of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, hereinafter referred to as "HUD," that the County be designated as an "Urban County;"

WHEREAS, the City desires to participate with the County in said program;

WHEREAS, as the Urban County designee, the County will take responsibility and assume all obligations of an applicant under federal statutes, including: the analysis of needs, the setting of objectives, the development of community development and housing assistance plans, the consolidated plan, and the assurances of certifications;

WHEREAS, the terms and provisions of this Agreement are fully authorized under State and local law, and this Agreement provides full legal authority for the County, by and through its agents and instrumentalities including the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles and the Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles, herein referred as "County," to undertake, or assist in undertaking, essential community development and housing

assistance activities, specifically urban renewal and publicly assisted housing; and

WHEREAS, by executing this Agreement, the parties hereby give notice of the intention to participate in the Urban County CDBG Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

1. The City hereby authorizes the County to perform, or cause to be performed, those acts necessary or appropriate to implement the community development and housing assistance activities, specifically urban renewal and publicly assisted housing, including, but not limited to, improvement or development of housing for persons of low- to moderate-income, and other community or urban renewal activities authorized under the Act specified for the City in the County's Consolidated Plan which will be funded from annual CDBG and applicable HOME Programs from Federal annual appropriations and from any program income generated from the expenditure of such funds. County shall have final authority and responsibility for selecting projects and annually filing its Final Housing and Community Development Plan with HUD.

In the event this Agreement extends into succeeding fiscal years and funds have not been appropriated, this Agreement will automatically terminate as of June 30 of the then current fiscal year. The County will endeavor to notify the City in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of non-appropriation notice.

2. This Agreement covers the following formula funding programs administered by HUD where the County is awarded and accepts funding directly from HUD: The CDBG Entitlement Program and the HOME Program.
3. In executing this Agreement, the City understands that it shall not be eligible to apply for grants under the Small Cities or State CDBG Programs for appropriations for fiscal years during the period in which the City is participating in the Urban County CDBG entitlement program; and further, the City shall not be eligible to participate in the HOME and ESG programs except through the Urban County.
4. The City may participate in a HOME Program only through the County. Thus, even if the County does not receive a HOME formula allocation, the City cannot form a HOME consortium with other local governments.
5. The term of this Agreement shall commence on **July 1, 2015**, the beginning date of this new Urban County Qualification Period, which will end on **June 30, 2018**. After this three (3) year Qualification Period ends, this Agreement will automatically renew for another period of three (3) years, unless the City provides written notice at least 60 days prior to the end of the term that it elects not to participate in a new qualification period. A copy of that notice must be sent to the HUD Field Office. Before the end of the first three-year term, the County will notify the City in writing of its right not to participate in the Urban County for a successive three-year term.

The parties agree to adopt amendments to this Agreement incorporating changes

necessary to meet the requirements for cooperation agreements set forth in the Urban County Qualification Notice by HUD, prior to the subsequent three-year extension of the term. Any amendment to this Agreement shall be submitted to HUD as required by the regulations and any failure to adopt required amendments will void the automatic renewal of the Agreement for the subsequent three-year term.

6. This Agreement shall be effective for the period of time required for the expenditure of all CDBG and/or applicable HOME funds allocated to the City under this Agreement and appropriations from any program income therefrom and for the completion of the funded activities. The County and City agree that they cannot terminate or withdraw from this Agreement while it remains in effect.

The City and the County agree to cooperate to undertake, or assist in undertaking, community development, community renewal and lower income housing assistance activities, specifically urban renewal and publicly assisted housing, including, but not limited to, the improvement or development of housing for persons of low- to moderate-incomes, and other community or urban renewal activities authorized by the Act.

The City and the County in the performance of this Agreement shall take all actions necessary or appropriate to assure compliance with the County's certification required by Section 104 (b) of Title I of the Act, as amended, including the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, Section 109 of Title I of the Act, which incorporates Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, affirmatively furthering fair housing, Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, the Fair Housing Act, the Act, and all other applicable laws and regulations.

7. The City and County agree that CDBG and HOME funding is prohibited for any activities in or in support of any cooperating City that do not affirmatively further fair housing within its own jurisdiction or that impede the County's action to comply with its fair housing certification.
8. Pursuant to 24 CFR 570.501 (b), the City is subject to all requirements applicable to subrecipients, including the requirement of a written agreement as set forth in 24 CFR 570.503.
9. The City shall report to the County of any income generated by the use of CDBG or HOME funds received by the City. Any such program income must be remitted to the County within 30 days of receipt if applicable. Such program income may be used for eligible activities in accordance with all CDBG and HOME requirements as may then apply.
10. The County shall be responsible for monitoring and reporting to HUD on the use of any program income; therefore, the City shall be required to maintain appropriate record keeping and reporting for this purpose.
11. In the event of grant close-out or termination of this Agreement, any program

income that is on hand or received subsequent to the close-out or change in status shall be paid to the County within 60 days after grant closeout.

12. All program income generated from the disposition or transfer of real property acquired or improved by the City, using CDBG and/or HOME funds or program income, during the term of this Agreement, shall be subject to all the terms and conditions of this Agreement, particularly Sections 6 through 11.
13. Any real property which is acquired or improved by the City during the term of this Agreement, in whole or in part, using CDBG and/or HOME funds or program income in excess of \$25,000, shall be subject to the following standards:
 - a. The County shall be notified by the City in writing of any modification or change in the use or disposition of such real property from that planned at the time of the acquisition or improvement. Such notification shall be made prior to the modification, change in use or disposition.
 - b. If such real property is sold within five (5) years or transferred for a use which does not qualify as an eligible activity under CDBG and/or HOME regulations, the City shall reimburse to the County an amount equal to the pro-rata share of the current fair market value of the property or proceeds from the sales. The pro-rata share shall be calculated by multiplying the current market value by the percentage of the purchase price paid with CDBG funds or program income.
14. The City shall make available for inspection and audit to County's and HUD's representatives, upon request, at any time during the duration of this Agreement and for a period of five (5) years, thereafter, all of its books and records relating to CDBG and HOME program activities and income.
15. Following the end of the three-year reimbursable contract period and after resolving any financial or programmatic findings, if a City elects to leave the Los Angeles County Grant Program, and is not eligible to become an entitlement City, the City will be unable to request that its allocation or any remaining balance be transferred to the City. Any remaining balance will be transferred to the funding pool of the Supervisorial District in which the City is located.
16. The City has adopted and is enforcing:
 - a. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
 - b. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.
17. The City shall or shall continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:
 - a. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful

manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the City's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition.

- b. Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:
 - i The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - ii The City's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - iii Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - iv The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace.
- c. Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph "a" of this Section 17.
- d. Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph "a" of this Section 17 that, as a condition of employment funded by the CDBG and/or HOME grant, the employee will:
 - i Abide by the terms of the statement; and
 - ii Notify the City in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) calendar days after such conviction.
- e. Notifying the County in writing, within ten (10) calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph d(ii) of this Section 17 from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of any such conviction; and the City must provide written notice, including position or title, of any City employees convicted of any criminal drug statute to every County officer or other designee who processed a CDBG or HOME grant which funded any activity on which the convicted employee was working, unless HUD has designated an identification number(s) of each affected grant.
- f. Taking one (1) of the following actions, within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph d(ii) of this Section 17, with respect to any employee who is so convicted:
 - i Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
 - ii Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purpose by a federal, State, local health, law enforcement, or other

appropriate agency.

- g. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs a, b, c, d, e, and f, of this Section 17.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles has caused this Agreement to be subscribed by the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles, and the City has subscribed the same through its duly authorized officers, on the day, month, and year first above written

County Counsel Certification

The office of the County Counsel hereby certifies that the terms and provisions of this Agreement are fully authorized under State and local laws, and that the Agreement provides full legal authority for the County to undertake or assist in undertaking essential community development and housing assistance activities, specifically urban renewal and public assisted housing.

By: _____
Deputy County Counsel

Date

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CITY OF «City Name»

By _____
SEAN ROGAN, Executive Director
Community Development Commission
of the County of Los Angeles

By _____
MAYOR OR DESIGNEE

ATTEST:

City Clerk

By _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHN F. KRATTLI
County Counsel

By _____
Deputy

By _____
City Attorney

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
URBAN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
PARTICIPATING CITIES BY SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT
Fiscal Year 2013-2014**

First District (10)

Azusa
Bell
Bell Gardens
Commerce
Cudahy
Irwindale
La Puente
Maywood
Santa Fe Springs
South El Monte

Second District (2)

Culver City
Lawndale

Third District (7)

Agoura Hills
Beverly Hills
Calabasas
Malibu
San Fernando
West Hollywood
Westlake Village

Fourth District (15)

Artesia
Avalon
**Cerritos
*Diamond Bar
El Segundo
Hawaiian Gardens
Hermosa Beach
La Habra Heights
La Mirada
Lomita
Manhattan Beach
Rancho Palos Verdes
Rolling Hills Estates
Signal Hill
**Torrance

Fifth District (15)

*Arcadia
Bradbury
Claremont
Covina
Duarte
La Canada-Flintridge
La Verne
Monrovia
San Dimas
San Gabriel
San Marino
Sierra Madre
South Pasadena
Temple City
Walnut

**These are entitlement eligible cities that have deferred their metropolitan status and they are joint applicants with the County for HUD/ CDBG funding.

*These are cities that achieved metropolitan Status while participating in the Urban County CDBG Program and deferred this status so they could continue participation in the program.

There were 49 cities participating in the Los Angeles County CDBG Program for the Urban County Qualification Period for FYs 2012, 2013, and 2014.

Updated 3/2013

File: H\List of partner cities2.2014